



# **San Diego City Attorney MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 1, 2007**

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### **CITY ATTORNEY COMMUNITY FORUM: SOLUTIONS FOR A WATER INDEPENDENT SAN DIEGO, IT'S EVERYBODY'S CONCERN**

**DATE & TIME: Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10 a.m. - Noon**

**LOCATION: City Hall, 202 C Street, Council Chambers 12<sup>th</sup> floor,  
downtown San Diego**

City Attorney Michael Aguirre will host a community forum Tuesday morning to discuss measures the City must consider to achieve long-term water independence in light of a recent landmark court ruling.

In a September 21 memorandum, City Attorney Michael Aguirre urged the Mayor and City Council to declare a water shortage emergency and implement a Stage 2 Water Alert, which is one of four levels of mandatory water conservation measures set forth in the City's Municipal Code.

The memorandum cites the need to take serious action in light of historic dry conditions and a recent federal court ruling that will limit the amount of water pumped from the California Bay Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Bay-Delta) to Southern California, in order to protect an endangered fish species. San Diego imports more than 90% of its water with over one-third coming from the Bay-Delta.

The City Attorney has requested Council President Scott Peters to place the matter on the City Council agenda. State law requires the City to hold a public hearing prior to declaring a water shortage emergency.

#### Confirmed Panel Participants (as of this date):

- **Jeff Mosher, Executive Director of National Water Research Institute**
- **Jerry Butkiewicz, President San Diego/Imperial Counties Labor Council**
- **Bruce Reznick, Executive Director of San Diego Coastkeeper**
- **Don Wood, Senior Policy Advisor, Pacific Energy Policy Center**
- **Thomas Zeleny, Chief Deputy City Attorney, Public Infrastructure Unit**

The Community Forum is open to the public. City TV 24 will broadcast the community forum live.

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